

* GUADALCANAL

* NORTHERN SOLOMONS

* LEYTE

* SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES

* VIETNAM



FOUNDED 1945

MARCH - APRIL 1991

AMERICAL NEWSLETTER

DEDICATED AS A LIVING MEMORIAL TO ALL VETERANS OF THE AMERICAL DIVISION

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: JAMES C. BUCKLE

VIETNAM EDITOR: RONALD L. WARD

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1965 - 1991

NATIONAL CHAPLAIN JOHN S. FRANKLIN

1990 NATIONAL OFFICERS

1991

NATIONAL COMMANDER

Ronald L. Ward

St. Louis, MO 63123

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Roland T. Castronova

Peabody, MA 01960

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Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

NATIONAL FINANCE OFFICER

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Melrose, MA 02176

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So. Yarmouth, MA 02664

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CHAPTER COMMANDERS

Allen D. Cappella Cape Cod Chapter

Stephen Dennison Eastern Regional Chapter

Edwin A. Heartquist South-East Chapter

William K. Maddox South Mid-West Chapter

Rush J. Propper Great Lakes Chapter

Lloyd J. Morrell Far West Chapter

David L. Recob Central Mid-West Chapter

Because of a by-law change that was approved by a National Ballot, the duly elected Chapter Commanders are now automatically members of the Executive Council.

AMERICAL NEWSLETTEREDITOR-IN-CHIEF

James C. Buckle

Wakefield, MA 01880

VIETNAM EDITOR

Ronald L. Ward

St. Louis, MO 63123

SEE YOU IN HYANNIS IN JUNE OF 1991

COMMANDERS MESSAGE

The next annual reunion is fast approaching. All the things I've heard from the committee indicate that they expect one of the largest crowds ever. A reminder that this reunion is for ALL Americal vets from all wars. We intend to give special recognition to the WW2 men as this is the 50th anniversary of "the big one" but by no means is this an affair for the old timers. We expect you Vietnam vets to be there also. I promise you all a good time.

Another reminder is needed for you men who have yet to make a donation to the Guadalcanal Memorial Foundation and I make a special plea to the vets from the Vietnam war. When we were working to raise money for "our monument" a lot of guys from all the previous wars came through for us. Here's our chance to give them some help. Bob Thornton will accept your checks.

Kokomo, Indiana veterans reunion is on for Sept 13-15. I hope we can count on Bob Kasting and Ron Davis to have things set up for us again this year. You did a great job getting that tent so we would have a place to meet. Don't forget a few tables and chairs to spread out our photo albums, newsletters, etc. We'll ice down some beer and soft drinks like always. I'm told that Britt Small and his Festival Band will be there. Anyone who has seen them will tell you what a good show they put on. This is a real nice event. I attended it for my first time last summer and was impressed by the amount of men wearing that Americal patch. Bring your cameras as Sgt Davis always seems to set up a photo session on Saturday afternoon. It's a great opportunity to get some group shots.

Special thanks are in order for one of our men, Joe Chin. Joe is a tax practitioner by trade and his expertise was of great help to us recently in obtaining a tax exempt status for the ADVA. The time he spent on this project was done free of charge for the Association. He saved us a great deal of money and his efforts can never be appreciated enough to satisfy me. If Joe is at the Cape Cod reunion, be sure to buy him a beer.

Another man deserving a toast is Dave Recob, the Secy/Treasurer of our new mid west chapter. We tried once before to get one going and weren't able to corner enough interested members. Dave stuck with it and contacted each eligible man with one or more requests. It paid off as our new chapter seems to be taking off with a grand start. I owe you a beer Dave and a hearty congratulations!

MONTHLY A.D.V.A. MEETINGS

March 9, 1991

Americal Museum Ft. Devens, MA
General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

April 13, 1991

Americal Museum Ft. Devens, MA
General Meeting 1:00 P.M.

May 18, 1991

Americal Museum Ft. Devens, MA
General Meeting 10:30 A.M.

June 7, 1991

Cape Cod Plaza Hotel Hyannis, MA
General Meeting 9:00 A.M.ADJUTANT'S NOTESDUES NOTIFICATION PROCESS

1st Notice Membership cards are mailed in ADVANCE of payment of dues.

2nd Notice Overdue Notice printed in ADVA Newsletter.

IMPORTANTJanuary Dues Notices

The January dues notices were mailed out during January 1991. Please remember that dues are \$12.00 per year. This is your second notice since we mailed your card in ADVANCE OF PAYMENT. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

TAPS

Rev. John S. Franklin
Chaplain 182 Infantry
Wareham, MA
February 23, 1991

Martin Nelson
Co. G 182 Infantry
Port Charlotte, FL
December 1990

Dominic Venti
Co. L 132 Infantry
Wisconsin
January 26, 1990

B.G. Theodore Gramstorff
182 Infantry
Everett, MA
January 1990

George Fitzpatrick
B Btry 245 F. A.
Columbus, IN
February 17, 1991

Thomas A. Varden
182 Infantry
Taunton, MA
February 21, 1991

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Nicky D. Bacon
Co. B 4/21 Inf. 11 Bde.

Robert W. Burnham
Co. C 26th CBT. Engr.
Leeds, ME

Charles H. Coughlan
26th Signal Co.
Belmont, MA

Kern W. Dunnagan
Co. A 1/46 Inf.
Dale City, CA

Gordon Durocher
Co. H 182 Inf.
Estero, FL

Donald G. Ellshoff
Co. L 132 Inf.
Tulsa, OK

Lynn Hart
H Troop 17 Cav. 198 Bde.
Benton, Arkansas

Charles G. Mankin
Co. B 3/1 Inf. 11 Bde.
Fairfax, VA

James S. Oldham
Co. M 182 Inf.
Hanover, MA

David Rogers
Co. B 182 Inf.
Dighton, MA

James Vitale
11 Bde.
Levittown, PA

NEW MEMBERS

James L. Adams
148th M.P. Plt.
Highland Falls, NY
#William K. Maddox

Thomas Adams
H Troop 198 F Troop 196
Wantagh, NY
#Roland Castronova

Moses Alloway
Co. B 5/46 Inf. 198 Bde.
Montgomery, AL
#William K. Maddox

Lawrence (Larry) Babitts
Hq. Co. Americal Div.
Camp Hill, PA
#Stephen Dennison

NEW MEMBERS

Nicky D. Bacon
Co. B 4/21 Inf. 11 Bde.
Glendale, AZ
#Roland Castronova
MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER

Warren M. Bushong
Service Btry. 247 F.A.
Lancaster, PA
#Al Doig-Melvin Sandy

SGM Joseph Charles
1/6 Inf. 198 Bde.
Houston, TX
#Dan Dinklage

Grover E. Clark
Service 101st QM
Clearwater, FL
#self

James J. Comeau
182 Inf. Americal Band
Bradford, MA
#Bernie Chase

Fernando L. Correia Jr.
Co. F 182 Inf.
Fall River, MA
#Dennis Botelho

Aldo Cugini
Service Co. 164 Inf.
Holbrook, MA
#C. Gordon Fletcher

Wilmer L. Dana
Co. E 132 Inf.
Sheboygan, WI
#Jim Buckle

Henry P. Distelrath
109th Station Hosp.
West Roxbury, MA
#Col. Arthur G. King

Kern W. Dunnagan
Co. A 1/46 Inf.
Dale City, CA

#Roland Castronova
MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER

Frank A. Fortuna
Btry. B 14 Arty.
Flanders, NJ
#Bernie Chase

Francis W. Harkins
26th Signal
West Harwich, MA
#Bernie Chase

Russell Horn
23 Med. Hq. 23 Inf.
Ottumwa, IA
#William K. Maddox

William J. Kring
14 AV. 174 AV. 174 Avionics
Niles, MI
#Ray Phillips

Charles G. Mankin
Co. B 3/1 Inf. 11 Bde.
Fairfax, VA
#Ron Ward

Glen M. Matthews
58 Trans. 335 Trans.
Kezar Falls, Maine
#Roland Castronova

Kenneth S. Mink
Hq. Co. 5/46 Inf. 198 Bde.
Gettysburg, PA
#William K. Maddox

NEW MEMBERS

Robert J. Nelson
Co. A 4/31 Inf. 196 Bde.
Succasunna, NJ
#Robert Thornton

Fred W. Nessler
1/14 Arty. 198 Bde.
Verona, NJ
#Roland Castranova

James S. Oldham
Co. M 182 Inf.
Hanover, MA
John J. Shea

Pete E. Pedersen
23rd M.P. Co.
West Caldwell, NJ
#Gerald Loughman

Thomas J. Pippin
Co. E 164 Inf.
Van, TX
#

Roy W. Sargent
Co. E 1/6 Inf. 198 Bde.
Penfield, NY
#Roland Castranova

John E. Schottemeyer
Btry. C 247 F.A.
Belleville, IL
#Walter M. Henderson

Thomas D. Shelton
JAGD Division Hq.
Valdosta, GA
#Bernie Chase

Ronald R. Starcher
Hq.-Co. A 723 Maint.
Parkersburg, WV
#William K. Maddox

Richard T. Stowe
Co. C 1/6 Inf.
No. Versailles, PA
#Bill McLaughlin

Kenneth M. Strapason
Co. A 4/21 Inf. 11 Bde.
Buffalo, NY
#Robert Thornton

Larry Walters
D Troop 1st Squad. 1st Ca
Oklahoma City, OK
#Robert Thornton

William P. Zachary Jr.
Co. B 182 Inf.
Jacksonville, IL
#Robert Thornton

#Sponsor

CHECK THESE NUMBERS!JANUARY MEMBERSHIP CARD NUMBERS

J-0121 J-0169 J-0230 J-0273 J-0309 J-0377
J-0125 J-0173 J-0240 J-0275 J-0312 J-0385
J-0129 J-0176 J-0248 J-0276 J-0317 J-0390
J-0132 J-0179 J-0250 J-0281 J-0314 J-0393
J-0136 J-0185 J-0251 J-0283 J-0324 J-0398
J-0140 J-0188 J-0255 J-0285 J-0334 J-0404
J-0142 J-0189 J-0259 J-0286 J-0335 J-0410
J-0143 J-0210 J-0262 J-0287 J-0337 J-0412
J-0155 J-0211 J-0265 J-0293 J-0342 J-0415
J-0156 J-0212 J-0267 J-0300 J-0344 J-0416
J-0159 J-0218 J-0268 J-0301 J-0350 J-0418
J-0161 J-0219 J-0269 J-0304 J-0354 J-0430
J-0164 J-0227 J-0270 J-0307 J-0376 J-0432
J-0165 J-0229 J-0433 J-09308 J-0436 J-0447
J-0452

YOUR DUES ARE DUE!*****JANUARY DUES NOTICE

The January dues notices were mailed out during January. Please remember that dues are \$12.00 per year. This is your second notice since we mailed your card in ADVANCE OF PAYMENT.

Your cancelled check is your receipt.

DUES ARE NOW DUE ON THE ABOVE NUMBERS!

CHAPTERSSOUTHEAST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN

Regional Commander
Edwin A. Heartquist
[REDACTED]
Tarpon Springs, FL 33589
Telephone [REDACTED]

SOUTH MID WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AK, LA, MS, OK, TX

Regional Commander
William K. Maddox
[REDACTED]
Portland, TX 78374

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL CHAPTER
IL, IN, MI, MN, WI

Regional Commander
Rush G. Propper
[REDACTED]
Swartz Creek, MI 48473

FAR WEST REGIONAL CHAPTER
AK, AZ, N CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, OR,
ND, SD, UT, ID, WA, WY

Regional Commander
Lloyd J. Morrell
[REDACTED]
Pleasant Hills, CA 94523
Telephone [REDACTED]

WILLIAM F. McGOLDRICK-CAPE COD CHAPTER
Plymouth & Wareham & South of the Canal

Cape Cod Chapter Commander
Allen D. Cappella
[REDACTED]
Plymouth, MA 02360

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

DC, DE, KY, NY, OH, PA, VA, WV, MD, NJ

Eastern Regional Commander
Stephen N. Dennison
[REDACTED]
Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Telephone [REDACTED]

CENTRAL MID WEST CHAPTERIOWA KANSAS MISSOURI NEBRASKA

NOW FORMING CONTACT:
David L. Recob
[REDACTED]
Topeka, KS 66611
Tel: [REDACTED]

HAVE YOU JOINED A CHAPTER YET!

CHAPTER NEWSWilliam F. McGoldrick-Cape Cod Chapter

On February 11, 1991, members of the Chapter met at the Dennis Thomas V.F.W. Post # 2578, Hyannis, Mass. At this meeting plans were discussed on the how the Chapter Members could help at the National Reunion in June 1991. We had three new members show up for the meeting and we welcome them into the Chapter. The next meeting will be held Monday, March 11, 1991, at 1:00 p.m. at the same location. The meeting on April 8, 1991, will be a luncheon meeting at Oliver's Restaurant Route 6 A Yarmouth, at 1:00 p.m., ladies are invited to this meeting.

Central Mid-West Chapter

We have a new Chapter formed in the Mid-West. David L. Recob did a great job in getting more than enough members to sign on to the Chapter, so a Charter could be issued to it.

The new Officers for the Chapter will be Ron Ward Chapter Commander, David L. Recob Secretary-Treasurer, Robert Crews Sergeant-At-Arms.

National Headquarters will have a Charter made up and will list all the names of all present members on it. The National Reunion in 1993, will be held in the Central Mid-West Chapter area.

SOUTH MID-WEST CHAPTER NEWS

The next meeting of the SOUTH MID-WEST CHAPTER will be held in Conroe, TX, May 28, 1991 at 2:00 pm at the Casa Elena Restaurant. Conroe is on IH 45. When you are coming, either north or south, on IH 45, take the Highway 105 Exit and go north on Feeder Road about 1/2 mile and the restaurant will be on the right.

HELP

We need input and ideas so as we can put on a great Reunion in 1992. Please come and meet your friends.

Yours in comradeship,
Bill Maddox

FAR WEST CHAPTER NEWS

I would like to use this media to notify the members of the Far West Chapter that beginning May 10, 1991 I will have a change of address and telephone number. I have been in California long enough and it is time to move on. After this date please send all correspondence to [REDACTED] Redmond, Oregon 97756. The telephone number is [REDACTED]. Almost the same as my present number.

After I get settled in Redmond I am hopeful we will be able to have a get together somewhere in a central area of Oregon-Washington in the early Fall. There is a lot going on this year, but maybe in 1992 it would be a good time for another Far West reunion. If there is anyone in the Southern California area interested in reactivating the Southern California Chapter, please contact me or the National Adjutant Bernie Chase, who is also the Chapter Coordinator.

Continues next column

CHAPTER NEWS

Try to attend the 50th Reunion on Cape Cod this June, and don't forget to fly those flags in support of our troops!

P.S. Before May 10, 1991, please contact me at the address listed in the front of this Newsletter.

Lloyd Morrell

EASTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER

I would like to thank all members who sent in their dues. Also, I want to extend special thanks to the members who sent donations along with their dues. I am still striving to have 100% paid up dues from all the chapter members.

As we stated in our last chapter news, our 1991 reunion will be held this year in Valley forge, Pennsylvania at the Guest Quarters Suite Hotel. The dates will be September 19 through the 22nd. Please mark your calendar now. The tours are set. The itinerary for Friday, September 20th will start with a tour of the Valley Forge Military Academy. The next stop will be the Brandywine River Museum with a stop for lunch (on your own) at Longwood Gardens and a tour of Longwood Gardens. This will be a full day starting at 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. On Saturday, September 21st we will tour the Valley Forge National Historic Park along Mill Grove. This tour will start at 9 a.m. and finish at 1 p.m.. This way everyone can relax before our dinner/business meeting. Further details on our reunion will follow at a later date.

The tours which I mentioned are just some of the events that we have planned for this year's reunion. I want to extend my personal invitation to all members and their wives to try to attend our reunion. I am sure you will have a great time and make some new friends as well. More information will follow in the newsletter and in future correspondence.

Sincerely,
Steve Dennison

*****

1990 Reunion
George & Rose Yates at the MacArthur Memorial

NOTICE

DID YOU FORGET?

The following named men will be dropped from membership for non-payment of dues, as of this Newsletter. If your name is listed in error, please notify Adjutant Bernie Chase IMMEDIATELY!

If we do not hear from you this will be the last issue of the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER that you will receive.

Alfred A. Brown
Sigfredo Castillo
Anthony Cianciotta
Donald M. Feliciano
Dale W. Fray
Tony Frank Sr.
Francis J. Ganley
William D. Highland
Phillip G. Hontz
Billy W. Hudson
Julius L. Lail
Stephen Liddle
John L. Marks
David P. Martinez
Richard P. Mosher
Ltc John C. Myers
William A. Ross Jr.
Kirk F. Shimek
Ralph Tringone
Harry Van der Hoven
Charles L. West

FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE FOR SALE

ASSOCIATION PATCH (small)	\$1.00
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AMERICAL PATCH (dress blue)	1.00
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AMERICAN FLAG PATCH	1.00
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DECAL CAR WINDOW	.50
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(Americal History) (Soft Cover)	
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CAP, BQASSEBALL TYPE (Inf Blue /Insig)	5.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS S-M-L	10.00
AMERICAL T-SHIRTS XL-XXL	12.00

Send order to: Kenneth Turner

Wakefield, MA 01880
Or call [REDACTED]

NOTE: Mailing charge will be added to above prices.

THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION
MAKES A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND THE AMERICAN
HEART FUND, EACH YEAR, IN MEMORY OF OUR
DEPARTED COMRADES.

REVEREND JOHN S. FRANKLIN

On February 23, 1991 the Americal Division Veterans Association lost a true and devoted friend. Reverend Franklin had served as the National Protestant Chaplain since 1965. He was always loyal to the ADVA and was one of its staunchest supporters.

Reverend Franklin was born in Hamburg, Iowa on September 29, 1901 and was ordained on June 9, 1922. He served pastorates in Iowa and Missouri before coming to Massachusetts to serve churches in Medford and Newton.

In the 1940's Reverend Franklin joined the 110th Cavalry, Massachusetts National Guard, as an enlisted man. When the Yankee Division was inducted into Federal service on January 16, 1941, the Reverend was commissioned a Chaplain in the 101st Infantry Regiment. On November 11, 1941, he became a Chaplain to the 182nd Infantry. He remained with this unit through the Guadalcanal campaign. During the Americal stay on Fiji he was transferred to the 164th Infantry and served this unit on Bougainville.

Upon his return to the United States he served at the Chaplain School at Harvard University. He was then assigned to the 213th Field Artillery Group, Little Rock Arkansas and closed his war time service at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, as School Chaplain.

Following his return to civilian life the Reverend answered a call to a church in New York and during the next twenty years served parishes in Brooklyn and the Bronx.

Upon entering semi-retirement in 1965 he returned to Massachusetts and living in Wareham, he served churches in Mashpee, Bourne, and Plymouth. He also served as a summer pastor to a church in Sagamore.

In June of 1972, while serving the church in Bourne, Reverend Franklin was honored with a celebration denoting his fifty years in the ministry. The Baptist Convention, meeting that summer in Hyannis, also honored the Reverend for his fifty years of faithful service. Americal members were invited to attend both of these ceremonies and many did.

Reverend Franklin retired after seventy years in the ministry. Because of failing health he has been in the Masonic Home in Charlton, Massachusetts, for the past several years. He still managed to attend Americal functions until a few years ago and he remembered well the soldiers that he served with during World War II.

Reverend Franklin is survived by his wife, Frances, one son, Horace B. Franklin of Georgia, one daughter, Elisabeth Franklin Willard of New York, eight grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and two nephews.

Three daughters from a previous marriage also survive.

Chaplain John S. Franklin was buried with full military honors in the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne, Massachusetts.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE!

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

PART 2
TELL IT LIKE IT WAS
BY MAURICE HENSON 26TH ENGINEERS

Continued from the last issue of the newsletter:

Before it got totally dark we started wrapping and snapping smaller trees with det cord only then it was too dark again and the rain started. As I started back pass the fire and wounded to spend my third night in the mud and thinking about them very much. I again silently said to them "Guys, I'm sorry I failed you all again, I'm so very much sorry!" At nights in the rain I started pulling my rain parka much farther down over my head to act more and more like an ostrich and bury my head in the mud cause of all the silent promises made each morning to all the wounded soldiers, and several unknown mothers whose son was still on the mountain top yet. And each night walk past and silently say I'm sorry I failed you again. It never seemed like the saying would be changed to "we failed you" cause you knew your friends done the best job always it was like I didn't do my job right and if anyone was to be blamed it was me not my friends who should bear the blame. I knew that Fields, Gillespie, and Downey thought much the way I did since we'd been together since AIT and each of us knew the other was thinking I failed but somehow it made us want to live up to the expectations of the

others so we would all work that much harder on a demo mission. The next morning something was different on top of the mountain. The NVA KIA nearly buried by the leaves was missing and we found where he'd been dragged off the trail and down the side of the mountain and never thought much more about it. Without demo we started dragging brush farther down the mountain and hoped that we'd soon get more to finish the job. We wondered about the pin hole opening to the sky we had and didn't know if we could be resupplied with demo, so we kept busy doing what we could with det cord and dragging brush. Late in the afternoon we got a big enough opening that finally we could get demo lowered to us, but it would be too late to return with anyones rucksack so we'd all spend another night in the rain with little protection. At the end of each day with the clearing just a bit bigger, and the return of the rain again we didn't get out packs or rucksacks, nor get the wounded or KIA's out! Soon each day and night in the rain was a repeat of the first night, the only difference was the clearing was just a little bit bigger but not big enough yet.

Our fourth night I'd doze a while in one pile of mud till it was too wet then get up move and try to find a less wet portion of ground to lay back on and doze a little longer. Most of the time at least three or four of us were always awake and sitting there in the dark would all be thinking why can't tomorrow we give the wounded what they need, a medevac off this mountain top. The answer was though the clearing was bigger a chopper still couldn't land because there was a tree always too close. If not on the mountain top then down the side of the mountain, one too big or to close to allow for a safe landing.

On the fifth day we were all dropped, our packs and rucks from treetop level and as they hit the ground would bounce and start down hill. Many pack frames were broken. We finally had our gear again but it didn't mean much as what we wanted was to medevac the wounded and KIA's. The next day by some miracle we were able to evac the casualties by making a human ladder to a hovering chopper. At last I saw the soldier I looked at each morning and night, finally leaving the mountain. Our demo mission would continue on that LZ for another eight

Continues next column

days of blasting and dragging brush. We still slept in the mud or sat in the dark listening to the rain. Only we'd gotten the wounded and KIA's off, finally. The second greatest moment for us was when a Chinook touched its rear wheels down on the mountain top while remaining suspended over the side slope. We watched more infantry unload and a Huey brought in a Psy-Ops Team. Our demo mission was over but how were we going to get off the mountain? We heard the unmistakable thump of rotors somewhere high overhead and Downey hurried to make radio contact, telling them we'd pop smoke. They spotted the smoke and came down for us. They weren't going to LZ Baldy but would take us to another LZ which was fine with us. In this process of "hitch hiking" we were on and off numerous Hueys that day, stopping at LZ's Center, West, Ryder, Polar Bear, finally going to Baldy at about sundown. When we landed on the pad at LZ Baldy, we could see the company area far below. Getting there seemed to be the problem. Gary slung his rifle and began to walk downhill with us doing likewise. A Marine engineer driving a five ton truck stopped to pick us up. We were all nearly too tired to climb into the truck but managed somehow. When the Marine let us off at the company area, we spotted the men playing football. We felt as if we didn't belong here so again slung our weapons and moved single file into the company. The men playing football stopped to stare and no doubt wondered who the men with mud covered fatigues and rucks were. Then I heard someone say "those are 1st platoon's demo men! They were sent out somewhere, sometime back on a demo mission." As we headed to our hooch there stood our CO and XO along with our Terry-Thomas look alike Platoon Leader. We heard him say "Ah, my duds are finally back!" Without stopping, we turned to look at him at the same moment. We knew we weren't duds but from him those were cutting remarks! The misery, pain, a sense of failure was still in our eyes. Our CO saw our eyes and sensed the danger. He told the Platoon Leader to get lost for the night. At the hooch we heard guys inside laughing and talking. As we entered the guys fell silent and stared at the mud covered soldiers as if they didn't know us. We dropped our weapons on the cots, pulled off our muddy equipment and sat down, not seeing the other men. We all looked at each other not saying a word. Now it seemed strange not to be sleeping in the jungle rain and worrying about our wounded. We sensed that we didn't belong here back in our hooch with members of our platoon that we had forgotten all about. It was as if we still belonged to the infantry. That was our unit. We wondered what we were to do? We didn't know and yet we couldn't stay here cause we just didn't seem to belong. Then Gary came to the hooch to tell us the CO had ordered the cook to open the mess hall and fix us something to eat. So again, we followed Gary and as we were leaving the hooch we heard the guys start talking and listening to the radio. We thought somehow maybe we'd belong again. But it was going to take a lot of time as we knew our unit was still somewhere in that jungle.

Members;

I was with "D" Company 1/46th 198th LIB from October 1968 to mid April 1969 and then HQ Americal Division Chu Lai Defense Command until the first of August 1969. I am interested in locating anyone that served with them during this time.

Loren T. Bouldin

Stratford, TX 79084

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

Members;

I am a former member of the Americal Division having served with Troop C 1/1 Cavalry (The Dragons) who were stationed at Hawk Hill and later we moved to Chu Lai. I served with them from June 1969 till July 1970. I need copies of the daily reports concerning their activities and a list of names of men in C Troop during that time period. Specifically, I want to contact the following three men:

Sgt. Michael Penning
Captain David L. Miller
1st Sgt. Ronald L. Scott

(SP4) William R. Hendrix

Horn Lake, MS 38637 phone # [REDACTED]

Members;

I am a wife of a Vietnam vet. I know that there are a lot of vets out there that are not active in groups or whatever. They either don't have the time or what ever the reason may be. But my husband is and I would like to tell you a little bit about him. We have two children and that alone keeps you busy. But he takes the time to get involved. He is a member of the VFW, AMVETS, and on the Board of Directors of the Vietnam Veterans of Mississippi, POW/MIA Chairman, and Agent Orange Chairman. Like I said, we have two children of which our oldest is in school and he is in the PTA. He has been going to the vet center and helping out there when he can. He is constantly trying to improve the Vietnam vets image. If there is a veteran that needs help or information about anything, they know they can call Jim because he is so well known as a result of the time he has put in. Sometimes I don't know how he does it but I guess he just really enjoys it. And yes he does work. He drives an 18 wheeler for Ryder and he is a magician and loves doing magic for people. I want to thank Jim for his never ending care for others and his family.

His wife, Jennifer Talley

Editors note: Jim Talley served with 23rd Med

Donald "Doc" Kvasne wants to locate a former Bn. Surgeon, Captain Thomas MD, who served with the 2/1 Infantry 196th LIB at the time the unit stood down in June 1972. He needs the Captain to verify some combat injuries that he (Kvasne) received. Kvasne was a field medic with the 2/1 and also put in some time with the 3/21st Infantry, as part of Task Force Gimlet, the last 92 men pulled out of the bush on 12 August 1972. The last known duty station of Captain Thomas was Phu Bai, June 1972. Old grunts always like to take care of our combat medics so if you can help the "Doc", his address follows.

Donald Kvasne

Cleveland, OH 44113

phone # [REDACTED]

Last issue had a note about the planned reunion for the 6th Support Battalion 11th LIB. We made an error on the address of the man to contact. It should be:

Dwight Fanshaw

Concord, N.C. 28025 phone # [REDACTED]

REUNION "A" COMPANY 1/46TH 198TH LIB

A reunion for "A" Company Vietnam veterans will be held the weekend of June 28-31 in the city of San Francisco. Currently we have 67 "A" Company vets on our mailing list. This will be our fourth reunion. The first two were held in Miami in 1983 and 1985. The last one was in Myrtle Beach in 1988. Our next reunion after San Francisco will be in Louisville, KY in 1994. The 1/46th was deactivated after Vietnam. In 1987 it was reinstated and is stationed at Fort Knox. It is now part of the 4th Training Brigade. For additional information contact:

Frederick J. Cowburn

Camillus, NY 13031

evenings
days

Members;

I am writing a book about "D" Company 3/21st 196th LIB covering the period January-June 1968. I am seeking first hand information on actions that happened on the following dates: 4-8 January, 27 January, 16 February, 9-11 March, 13 April, 16-18 April, 29 April, 1-15 May, 4-6 June, 9-11 June. Anyone wishing to contribute material or requiring more information write to:

James F. Humphries (Col. retired)

Bad Tölz, APO NY 09050

Hqs. Co. Americal Div.

Dear Mr. Chase:

Enclosed is my personal check in the amount of \$16.00, a completed Application for Membership and a copy of my final DD214 indicating my Vietnam service.

I was, incidentally, assigned as the Press Chief for the Americal Division in early May 1968, departing for the world exactly one year later, May 1969.

I was the "father" of the division newspaper (the Southern Cross) as well as the division magazine (the Americal Magazine) and I have issues of the entire first year of both publications. If you would like, I will send your editor photocopies of articles so that he might re-publish them in the Newsletter.

Thanks for keeping a tradition alive.

Sincerely,
Larry Babbitts

Larry we would love to have the photocopies.

Btry. B 14th Arty.

Bernie:

Is there anyway you know of for me to obtain a copy of the Americal area of operation map in Vietnam?

Frank A. Fortuna

Flanders, NJ 07836

If any members can help Frank, please contact him.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

HHC Co. C 1/3 Inf. 198 Bde.

As a Vietnam Veteran I would like to draw a few comparisons between that conflict and our current war effort.

First of all the Vietnam Conflict and the Korean Conflict never had the consideration to be classified as "Wars". The president made the proper move by asking Congress to declare war on Iraq. This simple step could have made a big difference in both Vietnam and Korea. If for no other reason then for it's historical classification. The undeclared war status was just the beginning of our problems concerning Vietnam and Korea.

The next big change is with the support every loyal U.S. citizen is giving to our brave and valiant servicemen and woman. This support we never felt to the degree the Desert Storm Troops are receiving. This support I do not begrudge them. In fact, I pray that it does not wane as the war moves on month after month. Had we been aware of this support instead of hearing about protest and the cold if not violent receptions which often confronted us when we came home. I'm sure some of our men who suffer now from delayed stress syndrom would not have this problem today.

The last comparison is with peace activist. I have yet to hear a peace group condemn or demean our troops. The opposite seems to be the case. The peace activist have nothing but praise for our troops. The peace activist of this war are criticizing the policy makers and not the troops. This is a complete turn about and to me a very welcome change

Maybe the Vietnam Veteran can take some comfort in knowing that we have done our part to make everyone aware the fact that the brave men and woman who are asked to fight for our country are not responsible in any way for the policies of our government. They deserve all our respect and understanding for the hardship and horrors they have to face to insure that our country can remain a strong leader in a free world.

Thank you for listening

Ted Block

Thanks for the great letter. We all agree with you.

23rd M.P. Co.

Enclosed is my application for membership in the Americal Division Veterans Association. Thanks to my old army buddy Gerry Loughman and us getting together for the first time in seventeen years. We hashed around the old times we had served together with the 23rd M.P. Company at Chu Lai. He had mentioned in several of his past letters of his membership in the Association and recently sent a copy of your newsletter to me. I promised him at our last get together that I would fill out the application and send it right in. Thanks to his persistence and after reading your newsletter I wish I had joined years ago.

Pete Pedersen
23rd M.P. Co. Chu Lai 1968

Pete the members of the 23rd have been doing a great job in bringing in new members.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP A NEW MEMBER THIS YEAR?

CO. D 1/20 11 LIB JAN-MAY 68

I have just recently joined ADVA and enjoy reading the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER.

Like so many other Vets I had buried the Nam experience for 22 years and it finely got the best of me. Now after months of therapy and counseling I find that I have this huge appetite for wanting to know everything about the time I spent in Nam. As luck would have it, I can't remember any names or places. I was enroute January 26, 1968 and was wounded and medevac'd out May 31, 1968. I was with Co. D 1/20 11 LIB. From some letters that I wrote home I know that I was either in the first or third platoon. Does anyone have any information as to the platoon I was with, any pictures, any daily journals, maps or just about anything that might be of help to me, during this period of time? Any information will be greatly appreciated.

Does anyone know where I might buy a 11 LIB Crest and also a colored 11 LIB shoulder Patch?



Arnold Corneliusen
Ronan, MT 59864
[REDACTED]

Arnold: We have hundreds of Vietnam veterans in the ADVA but rules do not allow the publishing of addresses unless the person request that we do so. Hopefully some of your buddies will remember you and write. (Your dues are paid until Jan 92 and your unit has been corrected on the records).

C-BTRY 1/82 F.A. LZ LIZ 68/69

I find myself looking forward to the ADVA newsletter and I realized that being a member of the Americal Division Association is relatively important to me. I imagine you guys are putting a lot of time and effort into the organization and there is very little that I can do to help.

So, even though I have a Life Membership, I want to keep contributing on an annual basis. Maybe on of these days I'll see someone from my old section in the columns of New Members. That in itself would mean a lot to me

Doug Remley

Thanks for the check Doug. We will donate it in your name to one of the charities that we support.

17
F

F Troop, 17th Cavalry, 196th Light Infantry Brigade, will be holding a reunion from May 21st through May 24th, 1992, in Milwaukee, WI., at the Midway Motor Lodge, 5105 S. Howell ave. Phone [REDACTED]. Please contact Richard J. Krueger, [REDACTED], Neenah, WI. 54956 if you wish more information.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

A COMPANY 1 INFANTRY 196 LIB

GREETINGS TO THE A.D.V.A.
I was certainly proud to see your ad in the Vietnam Magazine. I have always scanned pages looking for the old Southern Cross with someone's name attached that I served with, but now maybe I'll find someone. I am really excited about being a member of the A.D.V.A. and so is my wife. I am proud of you and what you are doing.

I have enclosed several things I've written over the years. If you desire to use any of them feel free. I simply want to help my brothers.

I have been a minister for over 16 years. I have enclosed a pamphlet which explains what happened to my life after Vietnam. I pray you receive a blessing from it. Pass it on, and should you want more of them please ask. I would be more than honored to speak for the A.D.V.A. at any of the rallies or conventions. Although I do preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, I have also been a spokesperson for the Missing in Action and the Prisoners of War. I have lectured in several colleges concerning Vietnam and I feel it is something I have been blessed of God to be able to do. I am at your service.

I recall the first time I ever witnessed the constellation - The Southern Cross. I have enclosed an account of that night for you. I am looking forward to hearing from you in the future. God bless all of you.

I was with Alpha Company, 2/1, 196 LIB, Americal Division, Central Highlands. I was wounded on September 9, 1969 just outside the city of Tam KY, our losses were heavy. Our A.O. was in jungle and roads in and around LZ Baldy, Hawk Hill, LZ East, LZ West, and LZ Ross. We stood down at Baldy and Chu Lai.

THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The constellation, The Southern Cross, constitutes the star pattern within the Americal Division shield. Mythology, whether true or not, says that the four stars were once a huge meteor which exploded within the heavens when Jesus Christ was crucified two thousand years ago. The Southern Cross cannot be seen from our (the North American) hemisphere. At certain times of the seasons it is said to be visible from the southern most parts of Florida.

When Stills and Cross wrote their song, The Southern Cross, several years ago (1986 or 87) I felt as if they had witnessed my life while I was in Southeast Asia. One line of the song says, "When you've seen the Southern Cross for the first time, you'll understand just why you came this way..."

One night during June or July, 1969, the second platoon was assigned night ambush several clicks outside the wire just off the road outside LZ Baldy. One of my best friends was a Cherokee Indian. As we lay there that night beneath a heaven which had no man-made electricity to diminish the nature brightness of the stars, we talked of home, and of our families. (at this time I won't address the events that happened) Cherokee asked me if I had ever seen the

Southern Cross. At that time all I had seen was a huge banner over the entrance to the military base at Chu Lai which stated, "Under The Southern Cross." In response to his question, "No," I returned. "Look, there it is." Cherokee replied, in somewhat of an excited tone.

As I turned heavenward and beheld the glorious cross hanging in the heavens our conversation became one-sided. It seems that I momentarily (at least within my thinking) left our present location. As I looked upon this beautiful constellation Christ appeared on it. I was totally shocked. What stood out the most was the agony He appeared to be in. The weight of His body pulling on the huge spikes through each hand was causing His ribs to seemingly push through His skin. The crown of thorns was pressed into His head, which was slumped onto His chest.

There was no drugs or alcohol involved. I was a good soldier and I did not do such things in Nam. At the time I did drink, but only at the LZs or base camps. It was real. Just over two months later I was blown away by an R.P.G. and two Medics left me for dead, but God did not. He brought me back to life.

W. Paul Hughes

VALLEY OF THE SHADOW, VIETNAM

Valley Of The Shadow, Vietnam,
Twenty-Third Infantry,
Twenty-Third Psalm,

We Walk The Valley.....,
Deaths Shadow Looms Near
The Shepard Who Loves Us,
Calms The Fear,

Horror Hideous, Daily Strain,
Evil Presence, Maiming Pain,
Mercy, Courage, The Cup To Gain
Eternal Dwelling Stays The Stain

A/1/52 198 LIB "Duster Heath"

REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM GALLANTRY CROSS

This cross was established on August 15, 1950 by the Republic of Vietnam, as an award for outstanding bravery by officers and enlisted men who distinguished themselves conspicuously by gallantry in action at the risk of life. It corresponds to the French Croix de Guerre, (which design it resembles).

The bronze cross has flared decorative edges and two crossed swords, points up, between the arms of the cross and superimposed on a decorative wreath-like design, (which is really two "dragon-like" figures). On the obverse in the center is a raised disk with a sprig of laurel at the bottom and a map of Vietnam in the center, which contains the inscription in Vietnamese, "In Remembrance of Work Well Done". The badge is suspended from an ornamental bronze plaque which is attached to the ribbon. The reverse of the cross is blank.

The ribbon is red with a wide center stripe of gold, which is divided by sixteen very thin stripes of red.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

Sent in by M/Sgt. Warren Reed



VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

11 ARTILLERY MIKE GOTTSCHALK 11 ARTILLERY

Armed with a pen and memories of his days at war in Vietnam, Mike Gottschalk is now recording his experiences for all to see.

Raised in Almont, MI he graduated from Almont High School in 1965, joined the Army in 1969. That same year he was sent to Vietnam for a one year hitch.

Mike served in the 11th Artillery and did his time fighting in the hills of Southeast Asia where the only way in or out was by helicopter.

Since childhood Mike had wanted to make his living drawing illustrations with pen and ink. Between graduation from high school and joining the Army he attended three years of art school at the Center for Creative Art in Detroit.

Now, twenty years later, Mr. Gottschalk works as an illustrator for Modern Engineering at the Great Lakes Tech Center in Flint. Mike is a technical illustrator and designs automobile manuals.

Off hours, he's capturing memories of the Vietnam War on canvas.

In a joint effort with area Vietnam veterans, Gottschalk is distributing limited editions of his "Memories of Nam" poster.

It took him nearly eight months to put together the collage of memories of the Vietnam he knew in 1969 and 1970. The result of his work is 21 men portrayed in ink drawings.

The sketches reproduced on the 24 x 36 inch poster are drawn from photo references taken mainly from "The Vietnam Experience" series of Time-Life books on the Southeast Asian war. (With the publishers permission)

Gottschalk and an ex-Marine friend financed a run of 250 posters. At first offered to local Vietnam veterans of America chapters, they are now on sale to the public.

"I can relate to this subject easily," says Mike. If I am missing something in the photograph, I can remember what it looked like".

"I started this basically for the local chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America. They wanted a few drawings to disperse about the monthly Newsletter," he says. Then some of the vets suggested I make some illustrations showing various phases of the war. And so I did.

A portion of selling price of each poster is given back to Chapter 287, Vietnam Veterans.

He said he was urged on by friends "who were seeing a lot of mediocre Vietnam art produced."

Gottschalk began expressing his artistic talents at the age of 3, when he carved a then-popular Howdy Doody and Princess SummerFallWinterSpring into his bedpost.

By the fourth grade, his talents were such that a drawing of his father's milk truck was exhibited at a Flint museum for a year.

While Vietnam art and military art in general hold Gottschalk's main interest, his dog portraits have been a popular mainstay. "I've sold more dog por-

traits than anything else," he said. The art community seems to go for non-objective art in general

Still the Vietnam War captures much of his painting time.

Mike is working on a painting of Bob Givens, a Vietnam veteran who died three weeks after visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC.

Drawn from slides taken by Amy Powers, the painting shows a wheelchair-bound Givens at the Wall in an emotional side hug with another veteran.

"Women in Nam" is another project that occupies his thoughts. The work, also done in poster form, is a composite of 14 drawings for the Washington-based Vietnam Woman's Memorial Project.

This poster will show women in various services, the Red Cross and even the USO. Mike says, "I even have Martha Raye's picture on it. She was a great supporter of the war effort."

One of Mike Gottschalk's posters will be delivered to Washington, DC. He is hopeful that one will reach the White House.



PERSIAN GULF HEROES

Men and women of the Armed forces, you need never personally fire a shot for me to consider you worthy of my respect. Acts above and beyond the call of duty include exhausting hours performing obscure duties in unglamorous places, enduring deep loneliness far from loved ones, customs unfamiliar in strange barren lands.

Few outside the military realize that support for war involves solving logistic nightmare, exhausting hours of mentally and physically intense work, innovative problem solving, monotonous practice until routine becomes learned response.

I honor the American men and women of the Persian Gulf for their sacrifices, devotion to duty, their stand against tyranny. They represent America's best. God bless them for proving 'America's legacy, "land of the free, home of the brave."

'Duster' Heath
198 LIB

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

50th ANNIVERSARY 1941 - 1991

NATIONAL REUNION - JUNE 6 - 9, 1991 - HYANNIS, MASS.

The Hyannis area is noted for it's Reunion facilities. Your 1991 Reunion Committee has planned an active and fun filled National Reunion. Join us by mailing in the Reunion Registration Form shown below. All of your paid tickets will be picked up at the Reunion Registration Desk at the Hotel.

The Hotel is located on route 132. By car take route 6 on the Cape and get of at exit 6, this is route 132. The Hotel is about one mile from exit 6, on the right side of the road. The Hyannis Airport is less then one mile from the Hotel. From Logan Airport in Boston, you can take a Plymouth - Brockton Bus to Hyannis. The Bus Terminal in Hyannis is about a little over a mile from the Hotel.

There are four big shopping centers with over two hundred stores, less then a mile from the Hotel.

THIS REUNION IS FOR ALL AMERICAL VETERANS, YOUR SPOUSE, YOUR FRIENDS AND ALL OTHERS WHO CARE TO COME. HELP CELEBRATE THE FIFTIETH YEAR THAT THE WORLD WAR TWO VETS., ENTERED THE ARMY.

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION - 91 REUNION RESERVATION

NAME: (print) _____ W.W. 11 _____
UNIT _____ VIETNAM _____

GUEST: (print) _____

ST. ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: (Area:) _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Registration Fee @ \$10.00 each person (No. _____) \$ _____

Bus Trip Heritage Plantation and Sandwich Glass Museum Saturday. @ \$15.00 each person (No. _____) \$ _____

Ladies Craft Show Friday (No charge) (No. _____)

Bus trip to Camp Edwards Friday. (No charge) We may be limited to 200. The first 200 request we receive will go.

One hour harbor cruise Friday afternoon @ \$5.00 each person (No. _____) \$ _____

Thur. No. (_____) \$ _____

Fri. No. (_____) \$ _____

SAT. No. (_____) \$ _____

Wine & Cheese NO. (_____) \$ _____

Make all checks payable to AMERICAL REUNION 1991.
Mail to Bernard Chase [REDACTED] South Yarmouth, MA 02664

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL REUNION JUNE 6-9, 1991 - HYANNIS, MASSACHUSETTS

50th ANNIVERSARY 1941 - 1991

6/6 Thurs.	1.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.	Registration (Lobby)
	6.00 p.m. - 7.15 p.m.	Hospitality (Presidential Suite)
	7.30 p.m. - 12.00 M	Dinner and entertainment
	7.00 a.m. - 9.00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	General Meeting for Men
	9.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	Craft Show for Ladies
	11.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.	Bus trip to Camp Edwards
	11.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.	Bus for shopping
	1.00 p.m. - 2.30 p.m.	Harbor Cruise
	5.30 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.	Wine and Cheese Party
	7.30 p.m. - 12.00 M	Dinner and entertainment
	7.00 a.m. - 9.00 a.m.	Breakfast
	10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.	Bus Trip Heritage Plantation and Sandwich Glass Museum
	4.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.	Band Concert Army Band (Courtyard)
	5.15 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.	Church Services
	6.00 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.	Hospitality (Presidential Suite)
	7.30 p.m. - 12.00 M	Dinner - Dance
	7.00 a.m. - 9.00 a.m.	Breakfast
	9.00 a.m. - 12.00	Checkout

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Package #1 June 6 - 9 three nights lodgings at hotel, three breakfast, three dinners, wine and cheese party. \$390.19 Single, \$517.10 Double. This includes all taxes and gratuities.

Package #2 June 7 - 9 two nights lodgings at hotel, two breakfast, two dinners, wine and cheese party. \$264.22 Single, \$352.92 Double. This includes all taxes and gratuities.

For further information contact Bernard Chase [REDACTED] South Yarmouth, MA 02664 Tel. [REDACTED] or William McLaughlin 59 Florence Avenue, Mashpee, MA 02649 Tel. [REDACTED].
Mail Hotel Reservation to Cape Cod Plaza Hotel, [REDACTED], Hyannis, MA 02601
A 48 hour notice of cancellation required for refund of deposit.
A deposit of \$78.00 per room is required in advance. Cut off date is May 6, 1991.

CAPE COD PLAZA HOTEL
AND CONFERENCE CENTER

[REDACTED] HYANNIS, MA 02601

Name _____ No. Children _____

Address _____

Arrival Date _____

Departure Date _____

Americal Division Veterans Association

do not write below this line

AMERICAL DIVISION
VETERANS ASSOCIATION

June 6 - 9, 1991

\$390.19 single occupancy, package
\$258.55 double occupancy, per
Please return this card along with a
\$78.00 nonrefundable advance deposit
or credit card guarantee, per room
reserved, by May 6, 1991. A 48-hour
notice of cancellation is required
for refund of individual deposits.
Package Includes: 3 nights accommoda-
tions, 3 dinners, 3 breakfasts,
gratuities and service charge.

CHECK THIS CONVENTION NEWS

AD BOOK AD BOOK

This 50th Anniversary of the entrance into Federal Service of the units which later made up the original AMERICAL DIVISION we are publishing a special AD-BOOK in conjunction with our reunion which will be held June 6 - 9, 1991 in Hyannis, MA.

We distribute these booklets free of charge to all members and friends of the Association, and a special mailing list to our advertisers. Each year our advertisers grow in number, offering a wide variety of services. We urge you to keep this booklet as a guide and patronize the merchants listed.

This is our main fund raising program of the year, and it helps us keep our dues at their present level.

The cost to be listed as a Booster with one typed line is \$5.00. Listing as a Sponsor (2 lines) @ \$10.00. A full page ad (4 1/4 x 5 1/2) cost \$75.00; half a page @ \$50.00; quarter page @ \$25.00. This is also planned as a Remembrance Book for all of our deceased members both in wars and since. We are sure members will want the names of our comrades listed who couldn't make the 50th Anniversary.

Thanks for you continued support.

PNC Bernard Chase Co-Chairmen
Bill McLaughlin

Make checks payable to 'Americal Reunion 1991'
Deadline for submission is May 10, 1991

NAME: _____ Sponsor (\$10.00)

ADDRESS: _____ Booster (\$5.00)

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

LISTING: _____

Mail to: Bill McLaughlin
Mashpee [REDACTED], Mashpee, MA 02649

We reserve the right to edit listings.

AMERICAN AIRLINES

American Airline has agreed to give a 45% discount off of the regular fare to Americal members attending the Convention in Hyannis.

To receive this discount mention the Americal Division Reunion and the following star number:

S0161AD

This can be given to your own travel agent or to American Airlines ticket people when making reservations.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?
CHECK THAT CARD NOW!

CAMPERS CAMPERS CAMPERS CAMPERS

Everett Ashworth (A-211 FA) recommends and has arranged for campers coming to the Reunion, and who want reservations with:

RESORT CAMPGROUND, THE CAPE COD HUNTING CLUB

East Falmouth, MA 02536
Phone: [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Campers can write or phone for information. Tell them that you are Americal Division and Mr. Stearns will know about it and take care of the reservations. The Campground is 17 miles from Hyannis, but the closest available. From the west take I-495 to the Bourne Bridge, then Route 28 to south to Thomas Landers Road. The camp is about 1 1/2 on the right. It might help to mention Everett's name.

ATTENTION ATTENTION

It is important that you get your reservation in immediately! The rooms in the primary hotel, Cape Cod Plaza, are filling up fast. Send those reservations in NOW!

The REGISTRATION FEE should be sent to Bernie Chase. The HOTEL RESERVATION should be sent directly to the CAPE COD PLAZA HOTEL.

Why don't you plan on spending a few extra days on the Cape? Provincetown is an easy day trip from Hyannis. Historic Plymouth is also an easy days drive from Hyannis.

June is usually a beautiful month on Cape Cod. The water might not be warm enough for swimming but you could still enjoy the beaches. The crowds have not yet arrived for the summer, most of the restaurants are open and the food is GREAT.

How about a day trip to Nantucket? This is also possible from Hyannis. If you do not want to stay in Hyannis, most of the Motels are open and the rates are very reasonable in early June.

ACT NOW! ACT NOW! ACT NOW! ACT NOW!

Many of the members of the Americal Division, World War II, were members of the 26th Yankee Division when they first entered the Army.

The Yankee Division was Federalized on January 16, 1941 and by January 26, 1941 the were stationed at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod.

Several groups of these veterans held small reunions in their respective armories on January 16, 1991 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of their induction.

Members of the 110th Cavalry, which became the 180th Field Artillery, met at the Commonwealth Armory in Boston, MA and members of Company E, 182 Infantry met in the former Wakefield Armory.

If you belonged to the Yankee Division when it was Federalized you belong at the Convention. A tour of Camp Edwards is available.

VIETNAM NEWS NETWORK

23 MP's HELP HELP 23 MP's

HELP! the 23rd MP's need to locate the following members who were in Vietnam 1969 through 1971 for the purpose of signing them up as members in the ADVA if not members already:

OFFICERS:

Gen. Wm. R. Richardson
LTC William Perrin
LTC Nick R. Pugliese
Maj David Poiner
Maj Warner F. Pike
CPT Sam Bass
CPT Bradley Dickinson
CPT George Harris
CPT Wayne F. Timmerlake
CPT Dennis Rocchio

SENIOR NCO's:

SFC Bailey Phelps
SFC Eugene Cogar
SFC Dominico Blanco
SFC James Crumpton
SFC Hans Hanson
SFC Robins or Robertson
SSG Floyd Nicholas
SSG Williams (Denver CO)
SGT Duane Krohn
SP5 Larry Wahl

If any member knows any of the above individuals, please let me know, so we can get in touch with them. We 23rd MP's want to form a strong cord to bind the unit together at reunions and conventions, or to provide a little hospitality as 'stop over' points while traveling cross country on business or vacations.

I first met General Richardson when he was a 'shiny' brand new Second Lieutenant fresh out of West Point in 1958 while I was in G-2 at the 1st Infantry Division, and he was in G-3 Plans. Later he helped form the 9th Inf Div as a Major and a Battalion Commander and went to 'Nam in 1966. I went to Germany. We crossed trails again in 1969 and he was on his way once more to Vietnam and the Americal. In 1970 he was a Colonel and Chief of Staff of the Americal Division, and promoted to a Brig. General. He went to Ft. Leonard Wood, MO as a Maj General, then to Ft. Leavenworth as CG, Combines Arms War College. While I was 1/Sgt 207 MP Co at Ft. Riley we crossed trails twice. He later retired as a full General and TRADOC Commander. In 1970-1971 we were just three blocks apart a whole year and never crossed trails while I was 1/Sgt 23rd MP Co. He was that committed to his job and the troops, as was I. I held him all my career as my role model. He was infectious with duty, honor, and -- country!

Dave Recob
23rd MP Co

MASSACHUSETTS VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL

In the closing days of the 1990 General Court, the Massachusetts law-makers passed legislation, that was signed by the Governor, clearing the way to build an official state memorial to Massachusetts citizens who lost their lives in the Vietnam War. The legislation designates the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Trust, a non-profit group, as the organization in charge of building the memorial which is planned for Green Hill Park in Worcester. Paul Price, chairman of the trust, said 1,316 men and one woman from the state died in Vietnam. The group hopes to raise \$1.2 Million

C/3/21 196 LIB Ed Close C/3/21 196 LIB

The Americal Newsletter Nov/Dec 1990 listed my unit incorrectly. It should be C/3/21 196 LIB.

I am very proud to have served with the "GIMLETS". Being 18 at the time I knew nothing about our past. Now with further research and study I find the Americal Division has a very proud past. I was glad to be a part of this past. My unit operated out of LZ Center and East. We patrolled the mountains and valleys of this area. Thanks for a fine Newsletter.

Ed Close

Chattanooga, TN 37406

MEDAL OF HONOR

Two Medal of Honor recipients became Life Member of the Americal Division Veterans Association this past month thanks to the efforts of Senior Vice Commander Roland Castranova.

S/Sgt. Nicky D. Bacon was a member of B/4/21 Inf, 11 LIB. He was awarded this honor for action that took place on 26 Aug 68 West of Tam Ky.

Nicky is a native of Arizona and his award read in part--"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life and beyond the call of duty".

Major Kern W. Dunagan was the CO of A/1/46 Inf and he was awarded this honor for action in Quang Tin Province. His award reads in part--"Major Dunagan repeatedly and fearlessly exposed himself in order to locate enemy positions, direct supporting artillery fire, and position the men of his company. He was seriously wounded during an enemy mortar attack, but refused to leave the battlefield--He was again seriously wounded. Undaunted, he continued to display outstanding courage, professional competence, and leadership and successfully extricated his command from its untenable position. Major Dunagan's extraordinary heroism above the call of duty, are in the highest tradition of the U.S. Army".

1/6 198 LIB RICHARD STOWE 1/6 198 LIB

I served with the 1/6 Infantry in Vietnam 1968. If you could help me with any info about the 198 LIB I would certainly appreciate it. I have not seen nor heard anything about this unit since leaving it.

Rick L. Stowe

[REDACTED] No. Versailles, PA 15137

A/1/46 196 LIB SYLVESTER JOSEPH SR. A/1/46 196 LIB

I am a former member of the Americal Division in Vietnam. Would like info on the coming reunion in Hyannis, MA and also to hear from members of the A/1/41 Inf 196 LIB. [REDACTED] Sylvester Joseph Sr.

Louisville, KY 40201

ED: The above are two letters that Bill McLaughlin received, from two prospective members, requesting information on the Convention in Hyannis and also about the ADVA. If you know either of these men please drop them a line.

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?

Continues next column

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

SICK CALL

Michael Doyle
Co. E 182 Infantry
Kenoza Manor Health Center

Haverhill, MA 01830

CONVALESCING

William Coronella [REDACTED] Sam Ravagno
Somerville, MA 02144 Saugus, MA 01906

Ralph Serino [REDACTED]

East Boston, MA 02128

The above three men were all in the 101 Medics. Lets get those cards in the mail NOW!

Many thanks to the members that sent in have news of our sick comrades. Please continue to send in the names of deceased or sick members--YOU are our best source of information.

Mrs. John S. Franklin sent a note thanks to all the members that attended the services for Reverend Franklin and for the cards that she has received.

In lieu of flowers she requested that a donation may be sent to your local Red Cross Chapter or to the: Scholarship Fund
V.F.W. Post No. 2846
August Lopes [REDACTED]

Onset, MA 02558

182 INFANTRY FERNANDO VERA 182 INFANTRY

Enclosed is the name and address of a Vietnam vet who ran me down on the road when he saw the AMERICAL license plate on my truck.

While he was tailgating closely he wasn't aware that I was getting ready to throw a World War II surplus grenade at him. Anyway, I stopped and he ID-ed himself as a former Vietnam vet, E Troop, 1st CAV, and would like to join. He is:

Evans Neumann [REDACTED]

Ventura, CA 93004

Respectfully,
Fernando Vera

Ed: Glad you didn't pull the pin. We now have a prospective member. An application has been sent.

132 Infantry George H. Haertel 132 Infantry

General Schwarzkopf biography in the Jan-Feb issue of the Americal Newsletter most interesting. I will read it to our Southern Arizona Chapter of the 1st Cavalry at the next meeting in March.

HAVE YOU CALLED THAT BUDDY YET?
DO IT NOW!

101 QM FRANCIS DIORIO 101 QM

THANK YOU

I wish to thank all of Frank's friends who sent cards and flowers and attended his wake and funeral.

Frank was very proud of the Americal and his buddies.

A special thanks to Ken Turner and his wife for their kindness. Ken brought the flags that were placed at each side of the casket.

The flag that was presented to me at the end of the funeral service was taken to the National Cemetery in Bourne, MA by Bernard Chase. It will be displayed on the Avenue of Flags.

Sincerely,
Mary Diorio

The staff wishes to thank Les Draffin and Ev Horton for sending in the obituary on George Fitzpatrick. We encourage all members to let us know when the learn of the death of a member or when a member is ill.

180 F.A. GEORGE LLOYD 180 F. A.

I read Al Doig's story about his trip back to Bendigo--Letters From The Old Guard--Having stayed two weeks with Mick O'Donoghue, City Clerk, at his home at 57 Williams St., filled me with nostalgia and envy. I will never forget was out to see the 180th F.A. Regiment, led by the Band, marching off at dawn on our way to battle the Japs. I only hope Al will write some more about his trip.

George Lloyd
Sgt/Maj 180 FA

97 F.A. Joe Marseglia 97 F.A.

Just a line to let you know that I appreciated your printing the the story about C Battery, 97 FA Pack Mule outfit.

At the time of the Nickel Dock explosion I was supposed to have been there checking our equipment. If I had been there I would not be writing to you now.

I have misplaced Mr. Parsons letter he wrote to me two weeks ago. I would like him to write again.

I am still on the sick list but coming around slowly. It may take me sixty years but I'll get there.

Have not seen the Museum at Fort Devens as yet but I am planning in the near future.

I would also like to hear from Paul Henrhan. He used to live in Hingham but is now in Florida.

Joe Marseglia [REDACTED]

Roslindale, MA 02131-4807

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

SPECIAL SERVICES JERRY MARTEL SPECIAL SERVICES

The Newsletter is getting newsier and newsier and you and you staff are to be highly commended for doing an excellent job.

It is very gratifying to see the increasing number of Vietnam veterans joining the ADVA. After all these guys will be our assurance the the Americal name will live on.

Which brings me to the reason for writing--some weeks ago a gentleman from Odessa, who is VP of a bank, called and invited me to speak at a meeting of the "Optimist Club".

This Bank VP is interested in World War II history, and many other subjects. For years he kept a copy of a newspaper article the local paper did on me and this prompted the invitation.

Since returning from the Pacific war it has always bothered me that nobody had ever heard of the Americal Division and actually that is still true today. We certainly had many accomplishments as well as many "firsts". Yet, we never received the publicity that we deserved.

So--my subject was the Americal, who and what we were and what we did. Only one person in the audience had ever heard of the Americal. One reason was the fact that all the vets in the group had been in other theaters of the war.

Although I am not a speaker, per se, I was well received and made quite welcome.

That's it for now. Keep up the good work and if I'm still able to navigate I'll be at the Convention in June at Hyannis.

Jerry Martel

Ed: I have to agree Jerry. We have never received the publicity that we were entitled to, during the war and even ADVA is not as well known as it should be. Our membership rolls should be at least four to five times as large as it is. Keep telling the story!

Co. G 182nd Infantry

Dear Sir:

This is to advise you of the death of my father, Martin Nelson, in December of 1990. He was with Company G 182 Infantry. He moved to Port Charlotte, Florida in June, 1989, with his wife, Marjorie, from Pembroke, Mass. Nothing was probably ever written about my father, good or bad, but this note is to say he was one great guy! I want you to know how much he enjoyed "Americal", as he read them many times over and saved each and every one! He felt "in touch" with his buddies through your paper. keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Paul M. Nelson

We received obituary notices on Lloyd Nelson of Lebanon, OR and Oliver Butler of Melrose, MA. Both of these men served with the Americal in the Pacific. Unit and date of death is not known.

★ GUADALCANAL ★
SOLOMON ISLANDS
WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION



With our deepest thanks and sincere appreciation to each and every member of the Americal Division Veterans Association, most of all, may we extend our thanks to you.

The numbers of Veterans that fought the Battle of Guadalcanal is decreasing and will decrease more rapidly in time.

The Americal Division Newsletter is outstanding. It gives each and every member of the Association the opportunity to send his contribution and make certain the memorial becomes a reality.

The membership spirit of the Americal Division Veterans Association will never let the name Guadalcanal fade away. Their contribution will help preserve it for generations to come.

With many thanks, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

BC

Robert C. Muehrcke, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Chairman

RCM:skm

Received check #1771 from Americal Division Veterans Association, Inc. for \$12,941.00.

MORE CONTRIBUTORS TO THE MEMORIAL FUND

Joseph J. D'Alessandro
Woodson C. Tucker
Joseph Salini
Francis T. Gallagher
Arthur C. Mitz
Irving Isaacson
Allen Cappella
Jane Reider Terry
Frank Brown
James C. Buckle
Joseph A. Anderson
Eleanor T. Evans
John D. Wood
Edmund L. Whelan M.D.
Emrys Evans

Many thanks for your support. Contributions are still being accepted. Send them to:

PNC Robert Thornton
Nason Drive Apt. #304
Melrose, MA 0217

THE AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION
MAKES A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND THE AMERICAN
HEART FUND, EACH YEAR, IN MEMORY OF OUR
DEPARTED COMRADES.

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

22 ORDINANCE CO. JOE SALINI 22 ORDINANCE CO

The enclosed check if toward the Guadalcanal Memorial.

I was with the 22nd Ordinance Co. and sailed with Task Force 6814 on 23-Jan-42. After a stop in Melbourne, Australia we went to New Caledonia and became charter members of the Americal Division.

I made the trip to Guadalcanal on the Barnett and we arrived just as the sea battle of Savo Island ended. The other ship in our convoy, the Alsheba, caught a fish and burned for the next two weeks while troops unloaded much needed ammo.

The Division pulled out in March and the 721st Ordinance Co. was formed. It was made from parts of the 22nd, 51st, and 82nd Ordinance Co.s. I remained with the 721 through Cebu and returned to the States on August 22, 1945--forty three months after leaving Brooklyn Navy Yard!

Bob Griffiths and Fuss Hill, my two closest Army buddies both passed away in the past three years. Bob lived in Scottsdale, AZ and we exchanged visits on several occasions. Russ lived on Maui. We spent a week with him and Dottie in 1969 and they visited us in 1984.

I would sure like to hear from anyone knowing the whereabouts of: Leo Mackiwitz, Joe Ritz, Charlie Todd, Bill Fodor, Ray Slater, Jockey Miller, and Art Bosnick. Write to: Joe Salini, [REDACTED] San Diego, CA 92110.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone having any knowledge of the islands we were on, from New Caledonia to Cebu. (I was one of the jokers that said, "I did not lose anything over there and I'm sure as Hell not going back looking for it"). What I didn't realize is that I had lost three and a half years of my youth over there and the older I get the more that I miss them. Maybe somewhere in the Island there's a 'Fountain of Youth' that can restore some of the youth I'm missing!

Keep up the good work on the Newsletter--I enjoy reading it.

Joe Salini

Joe: Sorry to say that the men you mention are not on our roster. Maybe some of our readers can help you out.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find some info on a return to New Caledonia. Jim

CO. D 121 MED EDMUND L. WHELAN CO. D 121 MED

I am a Life Member of the ADVA and enjoy the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER very much. It is exceptionally well done.

I wish to make this contribution to the Guadalcanal Memorial Foundation.

I am the former C.O. of the Clearing Hospital, Company D, 121 Medical Battalion.

Edmund L. Whelan M.D.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

A CO. 57 ENG DARRELL WARDIEN A CO. 57 ENG

A while back I became a Life Member of the ADVA and my name was listed in the Newsletter as Daniel instead of Darrell. Please correct this.

With my name listed correctly I am hoping some of my old buddies will recognize it and write to me.

Enclosed is a picture that I would appreciate you putting in the Newsletter. Maybe my friends will see it and write to me.



From left to right:
Vic Riola - John Thedford - ME - Shakey McGeehan

Sure enjoy the Newsletter and am looking forward to maybe locating some of my old outfit after 48 years. Keep up the good work.

Darrell Wardien

[REDACTED] Ventura, CA 93003

NEW CALEDONIA

As we have reported before there is a great celebration coming on the island of New Caledonia for March 12, 1992.

I have been appointed the coordinator for the Americal Division Veterans Association. An official Tour Guide company has been named.

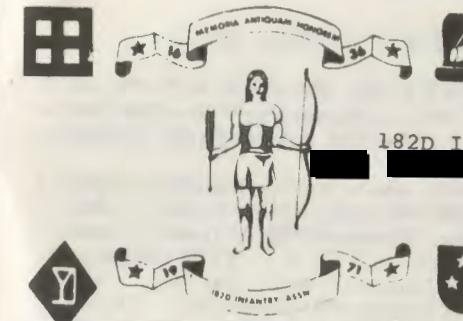
It is expected that by the May-June issue of the Americal Newsletter we will have some facts and figures -- as to cost etc.

If you are interested in making a return trip to New Caledonia in 1992 please drop me a line. There is no obligation. We are just trying to find out how much interest there is in the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Jim Buckle

CHECK TO THE RIGHT OF YOU NAME
ON THE ADDRESS LABEL
FOR YOU DUES DUE DATE

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

182D INFANTRY ASSOCIATION
[REDACTED], EVERETT, MA. 02149

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of General Theodore W. Gramstorff Sr., commander of the 182 RCT and 1BG, 182nd Infantry from 1953 through 1959.

The word is out! Our annual Memorial service and breakfast will be held on Sunday May 19, 1991. It is to be held at the American Legion Post 61, Revere, MA. For particulars contact Commander Doyle at 289-3875.

ATTENTION--all former members of the 182nd Infantry, or this Association. We have a special (one-time) membership offer for you. For the sum of \$25.00 you may obtain a "3-year" membership (or extension) with the 182d Infantry Association. (Normal cost \$30.00). If you ARE NOT a member as of now--drop me a post card or note to [REDACTED] Everett, MA 02149. By return mail you will receive some material on our Association, and how to take advantage of the offer which expires June 30, 1991--and will not be renewed.

Charles L. Doyle
Commander

The National Order of
CORPSMEN & COMBAT MEDICS
Post Office Box 141, Boonville, Missouri 65233-0141
Telephone [REDACTED]

Boonville, Missouri - Enlisted combat medical care providers will gather in San Antonio, Texas this summer for the first time. The August 8 - 11 event will be hosted by the National Order of Corpsmen and Combat Medics. The convention is expected to draw 500 Navy Corpsmen, Army Combat Medics and Air force Medical Technicians.

Meeting plans include Medic Congressional Medal of Honor winners, tour opportunities at Fort Sam Houston's Army Academy of Health Services, an autograph party with author Craig Roberts for his book 'Combat Medic, Vietnam and Seminars on P.T.S.D. among medical care veterans.'

The National Order of Corpsmen and Combat Medics is a fraternity made up of enlisted combat medical care providers from various military branches across the country.

For more information, contact the National Order of Corpsmen and Combat Medics at [REDACTED] Boonville, MO 65233 or Call TOLL FREE [REDACTED]
Contact: Bob Bosma
Joe Kralich [REDACTED]

CHECK THAT DUES CARD NOW!

**43rd INFANTRY DIVISION
VETERANS ASSOCIATION**

REUNION REUNION REUNION REUNION
U.S. ARMY

43rd Infantry "Winged Victory" Division
(World War II, Korea and after)

Sep 6, 7, 8, 1991
TREADWAY HARTFORD HOTEL
Cromwell, CT 06416

Contact: Howard F. Brown
East Greenwich, RI 02818

**National 4th Infantry
(IVY) Division Association**
VETERANS OF THE 4TH INFANTRY DIVISION
New England Chapter

The New England Chapter will hold its 1991 mini-reunion on May 3-5 at the Holiday Inn, Westgate Drive, Brockton MA. Contact: Heikki Fager

Carver, MA 02330

25 INFANTRY DIVISION 25 INFANTRY DIVISION

Have you ever served in the 25th Infantry Division? The 25th Infantry Division Association will hold a convention to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the the Division in October 1991 in Hawaii. If you are interested in becoming a member of the Association or are interested in attending the convention let us know. Write to:

25th Infantry Division Association
ATTN: Lt Ross, Bde S-2
HHC 3rd Brigade 25ID (L)
Schofield, Bks, HI 96857-6032

Ian Ross - Secretary

THE PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL

This medal was authorized by the Philippine Commonwealth Army Headquarters in 1944. It is awarded to personnel of the United States Armed Forces for service in the liberation of the Philippines from October 17, 1944 to September 3, 1945.

It is believed that this award and the two following were designed by the firm of EL ORO in Manila. This firm also supplies all of the decorations and awards of the Government. On the obverse it has a Philippine sword, point up superimposed on a native shield, this has three gold stars on white enamel at the top, below this a gold band with the word "Liberty" in raised letters, beneath this are three vertical stripes of red, white and blue enamel, with the sword on the center white stripe, the shield is superimposed on a pair of arched wings (in gold) that flow down both sides of the shield. The reverse of the medal has the inscription, "For the Liberation Of The Philippines" in four separate lines.

The ribbon is a deep red overall with a narrow stripe of blue and white at the center of the ribbon.



LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

B BTRY 221 F.A. JACK WARKOW B BTRY 221 F.A.

An interesting thing happened to me on Sunday February 10, 1991.

A friend and his wife were visiting at our home when he saw the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER on my kitchen table. Belonging to, and being an officer in an Air Force veterans association, he was professionally interested in our Newsletter. He opened the latest issue and began scanning the first page, when he said to me, "I know this man or, if he is not a WW II vet than I know his family". He pointed to the name of Senior Vice Commander Roland T. Castranova of Peabody and added, "I went to school with this guy".

You see, my friend was raised in Peabody, MA, went to school there and to Tufts University. He served as a navigator on a B-25 bomber in England and France during WW II. Herbert Kaster is his name. If Roland would like to do so, please have him contact me for Herb's address.

It sure is a small world, as we all say!

One more thing. Having just joined the ADVA last year and not knowing what stories were printed in the early issues of the Newsletter--46 thru 55--you might consider reprinting some of those old lost tales in future issues.

I very much look forward to receiving both the AMERICAL Newsletter and Cannoneers Post put out by Bill McLaughlin for us Artillerymen.

You guys are doing a helluva job!

Jack Warkow

Ed Note: Thanks for all the compliments and also for the articles you sent from the Philadelphia Inquirer. The latest one is printed below--

SOLOMON ISLAND STRUCK BY EARTHQUAKE

A major earthquake struck the Solomon Islands on February 10, 1991 according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The quake measured 6.9 on the Richter Scale, the survey said. There was no immediate reports of injury or damage.

The quake was centered on the island of Guadalcanal, about 55 miles west of the capital of Honiara, said Pat Jorgenson, a spokeswoman for the survey team.

The Solomons are a chain of islands stretching across 900 miles of the southwestern Pacific Ocean east of New Guinea. They have a population of 315,000.

The quake generated no tsunami, said an official of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center in Honolulu.

MED DET 182 INF IN MEMORY OF RALPH EVANS

Please accept the enclosed check toward the Guadalcanal Memorial in memory of my husband Ralph Evans.

I enjoy reading the AMERICAL Newsletter very much.

Eleanor Evans

CONVENTION JUNE 6 - 9, 1991 GET YOUR RESERVATIONS IN NOW!

SOUTHEASTERN REUNION - DAYTONA BEACH

Below is a group picture of the AMERICAL Division Veterans that attended the Southeastern Reunion at Daytona Beach, FL, the last week in February 1991.

Shown left to right front row - Helen Dunphy, Dave Rossi, Marie Barnes, Paul Barnes, Ivan Horst, Ann Horst, George Kerrissey, Rosemary Kerrissey, and Pete Mastrorio. Second row, L to R - Bill Dunphy, Clair Comeau, Richard Comeau, Pat Farino, Dee Farino, Ed Heartquist, Rosemary Heartquist, Louis Foss, Norene Foss, Adeline Mastrorio, Beatrice Tanner, and Millard Tanner.

The group had a great time enjoying the many restaurants, and Flea Markets in the area, especially the world's largest at Interstate 4 and 95. The Daytona '500' was in progress at this time.

It was suggested that next year the Reunion be held in the Tampa-St. Pete area. You all come. Ya hear?

See June 6 - 9 at Cape Cod Massachusetts!



COMBAT INFANTRY'S BADGE

If you have been awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, you should take pride in this award for it is given only to certain qualified individuals. Under the provisions of AR 672-5-1, Paragraph 96, to be eligible for the award the individual must be an Infantry Officer, Warrant Officer, or Enlisted Man with an 11 digit MOS and perform duty as a member of an Infantry Brigade size or smaller unit, during any period such unit was engaged in ground combat.

The Combat Infantryman's Badge was first authorized for service in Vietnam in 1 Mar 61.

The award was established to enhance the prestige of the Infantryman assigned to a combat infantry unit whose daily duty is to meet and destroy the enemy.

The Combat Infantryman's Badge was established to give recognition to the special job you are doing. WEAR IT WITH PRIDE.

Sent in by "Fast Freddy" Salazar

LETTERS FROM THE OLD GUARD

MEMBERS OF THE ADVA

YOU are the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER! The staff just assembles the material that YOU send in and prepares it for the printer.

Please continue to send in articles that you feel would be of interest to the members. It is always interesting to have names, dates and places in your stories.

Pictures are always most welcome and they will be used if they will reproduce well. Please put your name, the date the picture was taken if possible, place, and names of people involved. They will be returned right after publication.

Vietnam veterans should send their material to Ron Ward and WW II's should send letters to Jim Buckle. All of these letters have to be re-typed and Ron and I are best able to deal with questions that come up in our particular areas.

It would be a big help if you would include your telephone number. Many times a question will come up in re-typing an article and a phone call will clear up any misunderstanding. Plus--it now cost sixty cents to get an out of state number from information.

If your article does not show up immediately, please be patient. We have to work within space limitations and we do try to publish on first in first out basis.

Most of all--please let us know of any suggestions that you may have to make the AMERICAL NEWSLETTER more interesting. At present we are running longer stories at the suggestion of some members.

LET HEAR FROM YOU!

Your Editors: Jim Buckle Ron Ward

97 FA BN (PACK) JOHN PARSONS 97 FA BN (PACK)

I am sending you a copy of an article about a 97 FA BN (Pack) Veterinarian.

I dropped a note to Joe Marseglia a note and told him you were looking for info. He went to Guadalcanal with the mules. (See story in Jan-Feb 91 issue) He was also in a gun Battery.

You will also note in the article that there were some battle casualties.

Leslie Braun, a member of ADVA was with the detail that took the animals to China. He told me that he had some pictures of the mules on Guadalcanal but they were confiscated when he returned to California.

John Parsons

Ed: Thanks John. Ran out of space in this issue. Your article will be run next issue.

TAPS

Helge P. Lundin
57 Engineers
Quincy, MA
March 15, 1991

182 INFANTRY ED LOEB 182 INFANTRY

Enclosed is a reply from one of my Congressmen in reply to the letter I wrote protesting the demise of the 182 Infantry. Can't say as it clears up anything--

Thanks for your recent letter about the National Guard and specifically the 182 Infantry. The administration did propose significant cuts in the National Guard end strength as a part of the reductions the Pentagon plans over the next few years.

During deliberations of the Defense budget this year it became clear that the Defense Department had not thought through their plan very well. They had simply said that if we are going to cut active forces 10% then we should cut the Guard and Reserves 10% too. I believe that is the proposal you referred to in your note. The Congress was not convinced by the department argument. They had failed to tie their end strength requirements to the new threat or to consider moving some active forces into the Guard where the cost is reduced and the forces can be used if they are needed. Because of these problems the congress directed the department not to cut the Guard this year. They were directed to review their overall requirement in light of the new threat and propose any changes in their next budget request.

It is possible that the Guard and Reserve may lose some units over the next few years but it is too soon to make a prediction as to how many or which ones. Thanks again for writing about this important issue and I hope this information will be useful.

Sincerely yours,
Bill Hefner
Member of Congress

Thanks for writing Ed.

NEW CALEDONIA

Below is a picture of Paul Paturel, Poindimie, New Caledonia. Paul is the person responsible for the Museum on New Caledonia. As you know the ADVA has been, and still is, accepting donations for this Museum. We hope to have a sizable amount to present him with next year on the 50th Anniversary of our landing on New Caledonia. If you have not yet made a contribution you may still send it to:

Bob Thornton

Melrose, MA 02176





JAMES C. BUCKLE
4 WILSON AVENUE
WAKEFIELD, MA
01880

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MARCH - APRIL 1991

Mr. Malcolm P. East Sep

Lumberton, TX 77656-9429

MEMORIAL to all
and is pledged to
social and welfare
activities for all members, allegiance to the United
States Government, and its flag, and to perpetuate
the traditions and history of the American Division of
the United States Army.

Eligibility for Men
Membership in ADVA is open to
listed men now serving with or w
the Americal (23d INF) Division in an assigned or
attached status during the following periods:

World War II (South Pacific) 1942-1945
Korean War (Caribbean) 1954-1956
Vietnam 1967-1973

Eligibility includes those who served with Task Force
6814 and Task Force Oregon. Branch of service is
immaterial.

AMERICAL DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 1381, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02104

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name:

Telephone:

Address — Street:

City:

State:

Zip:

Americal Unit: Rgt.

Bn.

Co/Bty.

Other

Dates of Service — From:

To:

Serial No.:

Date of Birth:

Blood Type:

Religion:

V. A. Claim No.:

V. A. Office — City:

State:

Occupation:

Wife's First Name:

Date:

Signature:

(NOTE: Please Enclose Initial Dues) \$16.00

PLEASE: Attach a copy of the following information to your application.

1. DD 214 Form.
2. Officer's or Enlisted Report of Service and Honorable Discharge.
(All copies of records will be returned)